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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A seal system comprising:

at least one dock pad, the at least one dock pad comprising:

a rigid backing structure having a front portion and an opposing rear portion;

a first foam layer coupled to and extending from the rear portion of the backing structure adapted to provide a seal between a building surface and the dock pad; and

a second foam layer coupled to and extending from the front portion of the backing structure adapted to provide a seal between the dock pad and a vehicle, said second foam layer being thicker than said first foam layer, the thickness of each layer being measured by how far it extends substantially perpendicularly from the portion of the backing structure to which it is coupled.

2. (currently amended) The seal system of claim 1, wherein the at least one dock pad further comprises a theft deterrence component ~~to substantially enclose~~ which covers a substantial portion of the second foam layer.

3. (original) The seal system of claim 2, wherein the theft deterrence component is a metal structure.

4. (original) The seal system of claim 2, wherein the theft deterrence component is a chain link fence.

5. (currently amended) The seal system of claim 1, further comprising a ~~removable~~ cover that substantially covers exposed portions of the at least one dock pad.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The seal system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second foam layers ~~is formed from~~ comprises flexible foam.

8–10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The seal system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second foam layers has foam having a resilience from about +180 F to about –50 F.

12. (currently amended) The seal system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second foam layers ~~is constructed of~~ comprises three-stage foam.

13. (original) The seal system of claim 1, wherein the backing structure is constructed from steel.

14. (original) The seal system of claim 1, further comprising at least one mounting bracket for coupling the at least one dock pad to the building, the mounting bracket having one long leg and two short legs.

15. (currently amended) The seal system of claim 14, wherein the two short legs have different lengths, with the longer of said two short legs having a length effective to provide clearance for a rib structure on the building surface.

16. (original) The seal system of claim 14, wherein the at least one mounting bracket is adjustable via a slotted aperture.

17. (original) The seal system of claim 1, wherein the at least one dock pad includes a plurality of pleats to mitigate abrasion on the at least one dock pad.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A seal system comprising:

at least one dock pad, the at least one dock pad comprising:

a rigid backing structure;

a foam layer secured to the backing structure; and

a theft deterrence component ~~substantially~~ at least partially made of metal and covering ~~at least one side~~ a substantial portion of the foam layer.

20. (original) The seal system of claim 19, wherein the theft deterrence component is a chain link fence.

21. (original) The seal system of claim 19, wherein the theft deterrence component is secured to a first end portion of the backing structure, wrapped around the foam layer, and secured to a second end portion of the backing structure, such that the foam layer is substantially enclosed by the theft deterrence component.

22. (currently amended) A seal system comprising:

at least one dock pad having a rigid backing structure and at least one foam layer secured to the backing structure; and

a plurality of mounting brackets to secure the at least one dock pad to a building; wherein each of the mounting brackets forms a ~~U-shaped~~ channel having one long leg and two short legs, the two short legs having different lengths.

23. (currently amended) The seal system of claim 22, wherein the ~~long leg of the mounting brackets is secured to the building and the short legs are secured to the backing structure~~ longer of the two short legs has a length effective to provide clearance for a rib structure on a building surface.

24. (canceled)

25. (original) The seal system of claim 22, wherein each of the mounting brackets includes a slot formed therein for adjustability.

26. (currently amended) A loading dock door seal system comprising[[:]]

~~means for providing a substantially air tight seal between a dock pad and a building surface;~~

~~means for providing a seal between the dock pad and a rear portion of a vehicle; and~~

~~means for providing rigidity to the dock pad~~ a loading dock doorway and a first dock pad and a mounting bracket, said doorway having a mounting surface, said dock pad being mounted adjacent said mounting surface with at least said mounting bracket, said dock pad comprising a rigid backing structure, a first foam layer and a second foam layer, said backing structure having a front portion and an opposing rear portion, said first foam layer being secured to the rear portion of the backing structure and providing a seal between said mounting surface and the dock pad, said second foam layer being secured to the front portion of the backing structure to provide a seal between the dock pad and a vehicle, said mounting bracket being attached directly to said backing structure.

27. (canceled)

28. (new) The system of claim 26, wherein said first foam layer comprises a flexible cover and wherein said second foam layer comprises a flexible cover.

29. (new) The system of claim 26, said system further comprising a second dock pad and a third dock pad, said first dock pad being mounted on a first side of said doorway, said second dock pad being mounted on a second side of said doorway, said third dock pad being mounted above said doorway.

30. (new) The system of claim 26, wherein said first dock pad further comprises a theft deterrence component which covers a substantial portion of said second foam layer.

31. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein said theft deterrence component is at least partially made of metal.

32. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein said theft deterrence component is a metal net structure.

33. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein said theft deterrence component is a chain link fence.

34. (new) The system of claim 26, said mounting bracket having one long leg and two short legs, the two short legs having different lengths.

35. (new) The system of claim 34, wherein the longer of the two short legs has a length effective to provide clearance for a rib structure on a building surface.

36. (new) The seal system of claim 19, wherein the theft deterrence component is a metal net structure.

37. (new) A loading dock door seal system comprising a loading dock doorway and a first dock pad and a mounting bracket, said doorway having a mounting surface, said dock pad being mounted adjacent said mounting surface with at least said mounting bracket, said dock pad comprising a rigid backing structure and a foam layer secured to the backing structure and a theft deterrence component at least partially made of metal and covering a substantial portion of the foam layer.

38. (new) A loading dock door seal system comprising a loading dock doorway and a first dock pad and a plurality of mounting brackets, said doorway having a mounting surface, said dock pad being mounted adjacent said mounting surface with at least said mounting brackets, said dock pad comprising a rigid backing structure and a foam layer secured to the backing structure, each of said mounting brackets having one long leg and two short legs, the two short legs having different lengths.